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WALLA WALLA CITY COUNCIL  
Work Session Agenda  
October 11, 2021 - 4:00 p.m.

This will be a virtual meeting. A live stream of the meeting may be viewed on the City's website at the [City Council webpage](#), through this [Zoom meeting link](#), or by calling 253-215-8782 and entering meeting ID 811 0216 2540#.

Mission: Dedicated to enhancing the quality of life in Walla Walla.

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ACTIVE AGENDA
  - A. Review and Discuss Fleet Vehicle / Equipment Leasing and Rental Options: Presentation by Matt Edwards
  - B. Continued Discussion Strategic Plan Update: Discussion led by Deputy City Manager Elizabeth Chamberlain
  - C. Review the purchase of a Police Crisis Negotiation Team Throw Phone from 836 Technologies for \$25,599 using money from the State legislature for unfunded mandates.
3. OTHER BUSINESS
4. ADJOURNMENT

**Values: Service, Integrity, Collaboration, Equity, Leadership, and Community**



ar-4381

2. A.

**City Council - Work Session**

**Meeting Date:** 10/11/2021

**Item Title:** Review and Discuss Fleet Vehicle / Equipment Leasing and Rental Options

**Submitted For:** Matt Edwards, Support Services

**Add'l Contributors:**

**Project No:**

**Funding/BARS No.:**

**Financial Comments:**

Sufficient funding has been set aside using the Vehicle/Equipment Replacement (V/ER) program and has been made available through the 2021-2022 biennial budget development and approval for the purchase of seven (7) Police Patrol vehicles, one (1) Landfill Compactor, and one (1) Aerial Boom Lift Apparatus for the Urban Forest program. After completing a replacement procurement strategy evaluation, it has been determined in the best interest of the City to enter into a annual rental, lease, and lease-to-own contract for these vehicles and equipment not to exceed a total annual amount of \$395,000.

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**Information**

**HISTORY:**

The 2022 Vehicle and Equipment Replacement (V/ER) program, schedule, funding reserve, and 2021-22 biennial budget includes the purchase of Seven (7) New Model Police Patrol vehicles, a Landfill Compactor, and an Aerial Boom Lift Apparatus to support the City Urban Forest Management program. The new model Police Patrol vehicles will replace the current primary/frontline vehicles made up of seven (7) 2018 Ford Police utility vehicles, which will then be rotated to the reserve/standby Patrol vehicle fleet, allowing the City to complete the disposition process of an aging reserve/standby vehicle inventory. The current replacement strategy of the City's Police Patrol vehicles is 4-year replacement cycle with a total 8-year life cycle due to the need of backup units. Each vehicle is used 24/7 by each Police Patrol shift, while averaging a utilization rate of 32,000 miles per year in the primary/frontline status and then 4,000 miles per year as a reserve/standby unit, totaling an average of 142,000 hard-duty, response, and proactive law enforcement miles of service life.

The current replacement strategy for the Landfill's 2017 Caterpillar 826 compactor is using the recommended 5-year replacement rotation schedule due to the annual utilization, average compaction data, risk of downtime, and all environmental factors. The aerial boom lift platform has been planned and budgeted for since 2018 and will be an addition to the City fleet and used by the City's Arborist to support the Urban Forest Management program.

Over the past few years, staff has been exploring lease, lease-to-own, and rental opportunities for assets that are replaced more frequently because of duty levels and utilization rates, and for assets that have an extremely high acquisition cost combined with a short life expectancy. Staff has determined that entering into an Annual Rental, Lease, and Lease-to-Own contract as the purchase and procurement method for these vehicles and pieces of equipment will be in the best interest of the City due to increased flexibility associated with budget, specifications, standard operating procedures, etc., and the streamline of acquisition and disposition, internal cost reduction, continued warranty, site maintenance and mobile maintenance support, along with pickup and delivery support. The contract durations are as follows:

- Seven (7) Police Patrol vehicles - 4 Year Lease-to-Own
- Landfill Compactor - 5 Year Lease-to-Turn In
- Aerial Boom Lift - 12 Month Rent w/ Purchase Option (RPO)

**POLICY ISSUES:**

This purchasing and procurement method complies with competitive bidding requirements, RCW 39.34 and the City of Walla Walla purchasing manual. These proposed replacement lease, lease-to-own, and annual rental contracts will be using the established City agreements with Washington State Department of Enterprise Services and Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Organization.

**PLAN COMPLIANCE:****STRATEGIC PLAN:**

Initiative 2 - Long Term: Fix and improve the City's infrastructure.

Objective 1 - Use technology to provide better service and to improve management of operations.

Objective 4 - Maintain City buildings and facilities.

Initiative 5 - Mid Term: Achieve organizational and City resiliency.

Objective 4 - Emergency Management planning and preparation (Long Term).

**ALTERNATIVES:**

To complete the replacement acquisition using an outright purchasing method of these vehicles and equipment not to exceed a total cost of \$1,512,000, or to defer these replacements which would include accepting the elevated risk of high downtime rates, decreased reliability and readiness, and jeopardizing the overall cost effectiveness due to operating these assets far past the optimal and economic point of replacement.

**CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:**

Approved for City Council workshop discussion.

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**Attachments**

*No file(s) attached.*

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ar-4380

2. B.

**City Council - Work Session**

**Meeting Date:** 10/11/2021

**Item Title:** Strategic Planning Follow-Up

**Submitted For:** Elizabeth Chamberlain, Support Services

**Add'l Contributors:**

**Project No:**

**Funding/BARS No.:**

**Financial Comments:**

N/A

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**Information**

**HISTORY:**

At the September 20th work session, Council brainstormed and then began prioritizing high level key focus areas the City should be focusing on in our Strategic Plan. The Leadership Team took those key focus areas and further refined into four recommended key focus areas as follows:

- Livability
- Economic Health
- Safe Community
- High Performing Government

During Monday's work session, staff will walk Council through the key focus areas and begin brainstorming the details under each key focus area.

**CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:**

Approved for City Council workshop discussion.

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**Attachments**

*No file(s) attached.*

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ar-4350

2. C.

**City Council - Work Session**

**Meeting Date:** 10/11/2021

**Item Title:** Police Crisis Negotiation Team - Throw Phone

**Submitted For:** Scott Bieber, Police Department

**Financial Comments:**

The cost of this item was budgeted in the Police Department's 2020 operating budget. \$25,599 (see attached)  
The Police Department recently recieved roughly \$136,000 from the State of Washington to help off-set some of the unfunded mandates from law enforcement reform legislation passed in the 2021 legislative session.

**All Contracts:**

**Federally funded contracts only:**

Not Applicable

**Construction contracts only:**

Not Applicable

**Brief Summary of Requested Action:**

The Police Department requests authority to purchase a throw phone for use by the Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT). The current throw phone is no longer operable. Currently we have no system for the CNT to use to gather intel, reach out to begin dialogue, record conversations, view the interior of rooms with barricaded subjects, etc. The funds for this item were in the 2020 Police operating budget but were placed back in the fund balance. Recent police reform legislation require law enforcement use all deescalation tactics available to provide time, distance and cover in order to resolve potentially volatile situations without the use of force. The throw phone will allow us to implement these measures.

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**Information**

**HISTORY:**

The current CNT throw phone is no longer operable. CNT has nothing for the necessary capabilities of providing reliable and secure communications with the target.

The old throw phone, until is died was wrought with technologies including:

- Currently no way for command staff and SWAT team leaders to view negotiations in real-time without being present in the negotiation operations center (NOC)
- Analog video source without a reliable means of capturing the image source
- Lack of VOiP or networking capabilities common in most homes and businesses
- Incompatibility of throw phone system with current computing technologies
- No automated logging of calls made to the target which makes it dependent on human input

**POLICY ISSUES:**

Washington State Initiative 940 passed in 2019 and has translated into RCW 43.101.455: Violence de-escalation and mental health training. Part of de-escalation has to do with making sure officers use time, distance, cover and concealment as well as non-lethal alternatives. This throw phone will provide us with up-to-date equipment to deploy in serious situations that might otherwise manifest into lethal force situations.

In addition to I-940, multiple police reform bills passed the legislature this year which require de-escalation (especially time, distance and cover) be used prior to any use of force at incidents (among them HB 1310: Use of Force and HB 1054: Police tactics). Failure to utilize de-escalation tactics prior to use of force can result in civil and criminal liability as well as the loss of peace officer certification for the officers involved. The new throw phone will allow us to use de-escalation tactics as well as document those attempts.

The Department's current throw phone is inoperable. Having no throw phone is a deficiency that makes CNT non-viable at this point. The proposed throw phone system will address the needs of CNT with the following:

- Capability of integrating additional camera systems or video feeds
- Automated audio and video recording of all calls made or received from the system
- Automated logging software which keeps an accurate written record of events
- Networking capabilities that allow streaming of live communications with the target allowing command staff and SWAT leaders to make informed decisions (up to 50 connections)
- Consistent with current calling technologies to include landline and cellular service
- Ability to adapt to rapidly changing technologies with lifetime software updates and support
- Ability to track personnel on scene and provide real-time updates to on-scene personnel
- Evidence collected during the incident can be obtained from a single source, cutting hours needed to process and collate evidence from multiple sources.

This new tool will give us the opportunity to connect with people in crisis in a less threatening and more calming manner. High stress, barricaded subject situations can be extremely dangerous for both responding officers and the barricaded subject. The opportunity to negotiate with the subject from a safe, remote location while at the same time gathering intelligence about the inside of the location, is an investment in safety for all involved. It also allows for documentation of de-escalation tactics to comply with current laws.

The cost of this new throw phone was budgeted in the 2020 Police operations budget. We chose not to purchase the phone in 2020 because of COVID and wanting to determine the effect on the City's budget prior to making this expenditure. The Police Department recently received roughly \$136,000 from the State of Washington to help off-set some of the unfunded mandates from law enforcement reform legislation passed in the 2021 legislative session.

#### **PLAN COMPLIANCE:**

STRATEGIC PLAN: Strategic Initiative 2 - Long Term: Fix and Improve the City's Infrastructure.

Objective 1 - Use technology to provide better service and to improve management of operations

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

Currently the vendor for this technology is a sole-source provider. Unfortunately, this tool has a limited market (mainly police crisis negotiation teams), therefore there are not alternatives available that will provide us with the hardware and technology needed.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

For the reasons outlined in this report, Staff recommends Council approve this expenditure.

#### **CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:**

Approved for discussion at the Council workshop.

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### **Attachments**

Sole Source Letter

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**Officer Brian Smith,  
Walla Walla Police Department**

**January 28, 2020**

Hello, this letter is in regards to the 836 Tactical Video Phone™ and the CINT Commander II™, which were developed by our company. The 836 Tactical Video Phone™ has features which make it unlike any other throw phone on the market. This system has a highly sensitive 836 designed covert microphone, which has a wide spectrum of audio. The covert mic allows you to clearly hear and identify faint background noises. An integrated digital speakerphone includes adjustable audio settings. The 836 Tactical Video Phone has five streaming high resolution color video cameras, with the ability to view and record all five cameras simultaneously. Our system also incorporates a custom made data cable which is capable of sending all five color video feeds in excess of one mile. The 836 Tactical Video Phone does not require any additional power sources other than the main power cable located at the tactical control console. Our system is also the only throw phone designed to work with the CINT Commander II control console. There are no other throw phones available that contain these characteristics.

The CINT Commander II is the only system in the world which is designed specifically for crisis situations that interfaces with a computer to log, track, and record all aspects of a critical incident. Our system allows communication via landline, cell phone, or tactical phones to negotiate with the person(s) in crisis. The CINT Commander II networks via proprietary software with up to 50 computers, which are able to take active roles during negotiations. Live audio, live video, and live updates to all files are available to all computers on the network.

Due to the sensitive nature of the 836 Tactical Video Phone™ and the CINT Commander II™, they are only available for purchase to military, federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies. We do not allow outside vendors to market or sell this system. In order to keep control over who obtains the 836 Tactical Video Phone™ and the CINT Commander II™, and in order to provide the best support possible to our clients, purchases can only be made through 836 Technologies.

We ask that you please accept this sole source product notification for the 836 Tactical Video Phone™ and the CINT Commander II™, however if your agency has a specific sole source document that you require I would be happy to complete that for you. If you would like any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Sincerely,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Freeman', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**836 Technologies  
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bfreeman@836technologies.com**

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